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## Some of Our Flags

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straw of the rebellion—and so get back to Washington. This would hardly seem to be logical, but it is the simple truth. "We must make treason odious", and so on and so forth. But when President McKinley so happily put his stamp of disapprobation upon all this sort of thing it ceased. His retention of Gen. Fitzhugh Lee at Havana, his prompt appointment of rebel brigadiers in the U. S. volunteer service, and his acceptance of volunteers from all over the south, made this hatred of Dixie as much out of date as events that happened before the flood. When these events were initiated "the bloody shirt" was furled never to wave again. "Young America" has no use for that threadbare garment. Our heartiest plaudits were freely bestowed upon Generals Fitzhugh Lee and Joseph Wheeler, and our soldiers were glad to be led by them into battle. Peace—genuine peace—had come to the whole country so far as its two lately opposing sections were concerned. Some day we shall doubtless contemplate the Filipinos under far different circumstances from those of the present time. It is devoutly to be hoped, and not at all improbable, that we may yet come to think of them in a general way as well as we do of Englishmen, Tories, Mexicans, or rebels in our own country, for the whirligig of time brings to pass many strange things.

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### SOME OF OUR FLAGS.

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The Historical Department is in possession of three American flags the associations clustering around which make them more than ordinarily interesting and valuable. In the order in which they were received their history is as follows:

The first is one that was known in the old Fourth Iowa Infantry, in the civil war, as "Gen. Williamson's Flag." It was made by the women of Des Moines, and presented to Adjutant J. A. Williamson as he was leaving home to join the regiment with which he was so long and so honorably

identified. He carried it with him through the war and kept it in his home until last year when he sent it with other belongings to the Historical Department in the custody of which he wished it to remain.

The next is one of four flags used at the unveiling of the Lafayette Monument in Paris, July 4, 1900. It was presented by Hon. J. S. Crawford, a former representative in the State legislature from Cass county, who was present at the unveiling of the monument. He presented it to the Historical Department some months ago.

The most noted of the three flags is doubtless that which waved over the U. S. House of Representatives during the Memorial Services in honor of President McKinley Feb. 27, 1902. After the two hours in which it was unfurled, it was hauled down and sent by Speaker David B. Henderson to the Historical Department, as a gift to the people of Iowa. It is a most beautiful flag, twelve feet long by eight in width. It was used to drape the portrait of the late Honorable Francis Springer upon the occasion of its public reception in the Historical Art Gallery, and was also unfurled during the late Grand Army Encampment and during the sessions of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows of the World. These flags will only be used at rare intervals, and upon occasions of historic interest.

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#### CONCERNING GOVERNOR CHAMBERS.

Many of our readers will doubtless remember a biographical sketch of John Chambers, our second territorial governor, which was written by Hon. William Penn Clarke, reporter of the supreme court of Iowa from 1855 to 1860. This sketch appeared in *THE ANNALS*, Vol. I, No. 6, (July, 1894,) pp. 425-445. Some time after the article appeared we received the following letter from John Chambers, a grandson of the governor. The letter, which fully explains itself, was mislaid at the time it was received, and only came to light a

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